



SWARC NEWS-05/26

Notes from KK4BK (Brian)

Dear SWARC members,

During the April meeting, an announcement was made about an annual tradition within the South Wake Club. I.e., Elections!

Each June, SWARC elects officers to lead the club, for the following year, starting in July. The outgoing president is required by the constitution to remain a board member for one year, to assist the incoming president.

Ken Castille is heading up the election committee. If you would like to run for one of the offices, please forward your name to him with the office you would like a nomination for. If you have someone you think would be an effective leader for the club, forward that name to Ken as well.

In the 10 years that I have been associated with the South Wake ARC, I have seen many folks serve the club, but none more than Christie Fernandini. Since I started, she has consistently been the reasurer for



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the club. Please make it a point to let her know how much she is appreciated.

Steve Mowels – KA0GMY, had a way of picking folks to fill club offices when it was quiet in the room that night in May. Rodney (VP and P), Richard (Secretary, VP and P), Dave K (VP twice), Steve S (VP), and Gator(P) each have lead the club over the last decade. I accepted the nomination for club president as a tribute to Steve Mowels – KA0GMY. Hopefully you get the hint.

HAM Radio is supposed to be fun. Club leadership makes that happen. Please tell us who you think can do that for 2026 and 2027.

The American Legion will hold its cleanup day on May 2nd from 9am to 12 noon. Please come out and help South Wake ARC support the American Legion Post 116



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**JOIN US FOR
POST CLEAN-UP**

ITEMS TO BRING:

Weed Eaters	Chain Saws
Shovels	Hedge Trimmers
Rakes	Work Gloves
Power Washers	Work Boots
Window Squeegees	Safety Glasses

NO OPEN TOED SHOES

MAY 2, 2026 / 9 AM - 12 PM

AMERICAN LEGION | POST 116

6400 JOHNSON POND RD F-V, NC

VOLUNTEER NOW AND HELP KEEP OUR PROPERTY CLEAN!



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Public Service events are kicking off for the year. More information can be found at <http://hpsnc.org>.

South Wake ARC is selling Raffle tickets. First prize is a TYT MD-UV38 and DMR Hotspot. Second prize is an Alinco DM330MV Power Supply. Tickets are \$5 each. The Drawing is held on Field Day. Tickets can be purchased from any SWARC Board Member.

The South Wake ARC will be serving dinner for the American Legion Post 116 on June 11. We need six (6) volunteers to serve. See Brian or Steve Suzanne for additional information.

Don't forget -- Club Dues are ... Due. Your dues help with lots of activities within the club. Refer to the **MEMBERSHIP** header found below in the newsletter for instructions on how to become a member or renew a membership

Please remember our fellow hams and family members who are dealing with various medical situations. Please reach out to these folks. A phone call or text can brighten their day and give them encouragement through their recovery.

We ask you to keep the following in your thoughts and prayers:



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Gary, KO4LQX, and Kenny, KJ4CVK.

Gary Plante, KO4LQX, reports:

Good morning, Richard,

Well, I'm still fighting the battles and hoping to be able to wean off the steroids, but every time I do I start getting more flare-ups.

So, I guess the fight goes on; I won't win the war but at least I can win some of the battles.

Special thanks to you Anne & Ken for checking in every so often.

Gary

Kenny, KJ4CVK, is in an assisted living facility, in Lillington.

de KK4BK (Brian)

Notes from KO4ZFO (Rodney)

SKYWARN training will be provided at our meeting in May. The June meeting will be elections and final preparations for Field Day. We also plan to have a signup sheet for field day shifts, to get commitments to run the stations through the entire operational period.



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As we are approaching the end of business year, elections will be coming up in a month; so be thinking about if you would like to help the club by becoming an officer. If you have never served, I encourage you to take this opportunity to help the club. None of this is rocket science, and we have plenty of past officers to help mentor you. Whether you would like to serve for one year or multiple years, the club benefits by having new and fresh minds working to move us forward into the future. If anyone is interested in running for office, Ken Castille (KN4GUS) is in charge of the Elections Committee this year.

We still have SWARC T-shirts available. You can contact me for availability. Stay safe and stay cool, and don't forget to check on your family and neighbors just to stay in touch.

Thank you again for your support and 73,

Rodney
KO4ZFO
South Wake ARC Vice-President

SWARC 1 APR 2026 Meeting



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Attendees: Dave, (NW3U), Brian (KK4BK), Janet (KB4JSK), Tom (KC2QVD) and girlfriend Jamie, Rodney (KO4ZFO), Steve (WB4SMS), Rich (KR4LH), Steve (NC4SW), Mike (K4MWG), Greg (N9PGG), Bill (KK4QDZ), Steve (NC4SW), Erick (KR4KFI), Ken (KN4GUS), Phil (KZ4OE), Don (KN4OEY), Paul (KN4NGI), Rich (KZ4ET) and Jane, and guests Rich (KR4JPP), and John (KQ4VRJ).

MEETING TOPIC(s)

Tom (KC2QVD) gave a presentation on his \$75 POTA/Portable Antenna; for more info, check out his website.

Richard (KR4LH) discussed license testing at the upcoming RARSfest on 4 April.

The club approved a motion to purchase a 10' x 15' tent and weights for \$228.00 or more, as required.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Christy provided her report for this newsletter. April saw income of \$60.00 comprised of dues. Expenses were \$23.38 for various fees. Balance at end of month was \$2,891.21.



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Public Service

To learn more about future events, you can go to <https://hpsnc.org/>. The public service season for 2026 is now in full swing!

Check the HPSNC.org web site often for Public Service opportunities. The public service season is very active and events need volunteers. You may also get to public service events on the RARS and SWARC websites.

MEMBERSHIP

It is now time to renew your membership, if you have not already done so. You can pay at a meeting or send a check to the PO Box – OR ->

We currently have a link on our website which allows you to pay your dues or make a donation. Please let us know when you pay online by emailing me, so that I can ensure your payment is marked either for dues or a donation. The link for SWARC dues is:

https://urldefense.com/v3/__https://square.link/u/h0LLrbD6?src=sms/

You can bring a check or cash for dues to the next meeting or mail them to the club PO box and Christy will advise she has received them. Also, you can now renew online by contacting Christy and giving her the appropriate credit card info for the 'Square' account. Christy's



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email is christyfernandini@outlook.com. Make checks payable to South Wake ARC and send to South Wake ARC – PO Box 1565 – Fuquay Varina, NC 27526

NET REPORT

We will no longer be reporting monthly net numbers in the newsletter. **Very few** net controls record their counts, so numbers could be significantly higher than what is recorded on the spreadsheet.

If you are a net control, please try to document your check-ins so that we can justify the trustee's provision of the repeater for our nets and other uses. **If you need help with the spreadsheet, send KR4LH a copy of your handwritten log and he will enter them. Text Richard at 830-515-9762 with a picture of your log.**

- Sunday evenings - KR4LH
- Monday evenings - KO4ZFO
- Tuesday evenings – KD4OKR
- Wednesday evenings except on meeting nights – KD4MC
- Thursday evenings – KN4OEY
- Friday evenings - NC4MP
- Saturday evenings – KK4BK



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Welcome to new substitute net controllers: CD Murphy (KM4IJK), Bryant Byrd (KQ4UHZ), Al Kinnamon (WA3JJG), Navin Kalicharan (KF4LFW) and Mark McFarland (KD7AAG).

Please contact Brian Knox (KK4BK), if you are interested in calling one or more nets. **If you are a scheduled net controller and you are not able to call your net, please reach out and ask someone else to call it for you!**

SWARC Mission Statement

South Wake ARC's primary purpose is to further the Amateur Radio Service through programs, activities, and education, in order to promote the radio knowledge, fraternalism and individual operating efficiency of its members. Further, it shall be our purpose to support the welfare of our community through public service including radio communications for emergency situations and public events, and through providing information, training, and assistance to individuals or organizations with an interest in the Amateur Radio Service. Refer to the SWARC web site for the Board of Directors/Officers and Appointed Positions.



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LINKS (if you have other links that you want added, send them to me)

PRN

A Wide Area Digital Amateur Radio Network

www.ncprn.net

GigaParts

www.gigaparts.com

QRZ

www.qrz.com

Ham Radio Outlet HRO

www.hamradio.com

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society RARS

www.rars.org

Johnson Amateur Radio Society JARS

www.jars.net

South Wake Amateur Radio Club SWARC

www.southwakearc.com

Carolina 440 Network

www.carolina440.net

North Carolina Packet

www.ncpacket.com

TARPN (Terrestrial Amateur Packet Radio Net)

www.tarpn.net

Useful Ham Info

www.torborg.com/a

Five County Ham Radio Enthusiasts

www.fivecountyhre.org

Ham Study (Exam Tools)

www.hamstudy.org



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Due to formatting issues, I will forward the most recent ARRL News to all members, regardless of your membership in ARRL or not!

The following comments and information are extracted from one of our NC Section Manager's recent monthly newsletters.

FIELD DAY

In order to emphasize skills and teamwork which would be needed during a disaster, ARRL established FIELD DAY as a nationwide training session.

Some operators view Field Day as a contest and seek to make as many contest as possible within a 24-hour period over the last weekend in June. Others view Field Day as an opportunity to set up one or more stations, using emergency power and temporary antennas. For some ham groups, becoming skilled in setting up stations that will be needed to provide communications when and where normal communications are disrupted, being asked to send simulated emergency messages emergency agencies and Red Cross.

Field Day is 2026 will be held from 18:00 UTC Saturday to 20:59 UTC Sunday (June 27-28, 2026).

ARRL has published rules as to transmitting power, publicity about



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Field Day, invitations to local officials and opportunities to have a GET ON THE AIR station so that persons without a license can learn about the excitement of operating and making contacts with other beginners while learning about disaster communications.

Clubs should make a special effort to get newly licensed hams on the air and to use their first Field Day as a learning experience that will stay with for as long as they remain interested in ham radio.

ARRL MATTERS:

PASS THE BILL

ARRL continues to urge the amateur radio community to follow through and do their part in urging Congress to pass legislation to overrule property-owner and home-owner association rules that prohibit installation of ham radio antennas within subdivisions.

If you haven't already participated in the PASS THE BILL campaign, you can go to the ARRL webpage for instructions on how to send a letter to your Member of the House and your US Senator. Go to <https://www.arrl.org/current-legislation>.

So, do not wait on indicating your support for the House and Senate bills backed by the ARRL. Follow the instruction is the link posted



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above and add your name to the letters going to your particular Representative and both your Senators.

PASS THE BILL!

YEAR OF THE CLUB – OPERATING AS W1AW/P4 DURING 2026

As part of ARRL's celebration of the 250th Anniversary of our country and to generate increased activity on the bands, ARRL has created a special Worked All States-250 Award which will be awarded to operators who make contact with stations in all 50 states during 2026.

Each state has been assigned two one week periods when stations in a particular state may be given permission to operate with the special callsign W1AW portable 4. North Carolina has been assigned operation beginning at 0000 UTC on a Wednesday, and ending at 2359 UTC on the following Tuesday. The two weeks assigned to North Carolina begin on April 1 as well as September 2.

Paul Raiche (N1XI) who lives in Ashe County has volunteered to be the NC Coordinator for the WAS-250 operation and he can approve use of W1AW/4 callsign. He has created a special email address for contacting him concerning operating during North Carolina's two weeks. He requests that you contact him at was250nc@gmail.com concerning available times, modes, and bands for operation.



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Please remember that ARRL has established particular rules for this year-long activity. You may request times, modes and bands by contacting Paul Raiche, but the approval of assignment are his responsibility and will be tracked in spreadsheet as to who has been assigned times to operate as W1AW/P4.

Rules for this operation have been set by ARRL and were not written by me or other NC operators.

- For example, a posting from ARRL stated “How many stations can be on at one time? Answer: Three (3) mode stations can be on every band (except 60 meters) at the same time. Example: For activations on say the 160, 80-, 40-, 30-, 20-, 17-, 15-, 12-, 10- and 6-meter bands – that is 10 bands X 3 modes = 30 stations can be on using the same W1AW/# call from your state at the same time. Adding 2m, plus 1.25m, 70cm, 33cm and 23cm, that’s 5 more bands x 3 modes = 15 bands stations – then add that to your first 30 band mode stations to get a total of 45 active stations on the air at the same time.”

- Only ARRL HQ staff at W1AW staff may add data to your log and ADI file for uploads to LOTW for WAS-250 contacts..

- Operators who have previously earned WAS are eligible to earn WAS-250.



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- There will be an on-the-air station operating from the Cleveland County Fairgrounds during both days of the Shelby Hamfest

BENEFITS TO YOU COMING FROM ARRL MEMBERSHIP

During the Charlotte Hamfest, I was asked what benefits come to hams and clubs by being a member for a club being affiliated with the ARRL. It did not take but a few seconds to answer these questions since this is part and parcel of what a Section Manager deals with as part of the job. The benefits are many and include:

- ARRL lobbying in Washington to protect amateur radio spectrum from efforts by other communications groups to have spectrum reallocated away from amateur use.
- ARRL works with international regulatory groups so that other countries do not allocate spectrum in ways that would cause harmful interference to amateur use.
- ARRL educational activities through publications, including books as well as technical magazines, as well as in-person educational activities about emerging technologies.
- ARRL services to amateur radio operators which include equipment



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and liability insurance.

- ARRL lab that provides unbiased evaluation of ham equipment to assure their proper technical operation.
- Support to local and state emergency management agencies by participating in ARES and Auxcomm activities through partnerships with FEMA, Red Cross and other groups.
- Engaging in activities to increase interest levels by young people in electronics, robotics, telecommunications, satellites and other technologies through programs that involve Scouts, school clubs and urging clubs to mentor young people about ham radio.
- Sharing revenues from ARRL dues when clubs partner with ARRL by signing up new members and helping existing members to renew their ARRL membership.
- ARRL's recent actions to provide financial support when increasing costs lead clubs seriously consider ending their support to local hamfests.
- ARRL offers hams technical support with its expertise by way of the Volunteer Monitor program to identify malicious interference, non-ham intruders on ham bands and by working with the FCC to seek



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enforcement actions against illegal operations.

ARRL's Field Organization involves volunteers in each of the 71 Section in the United States. The volunteers assist the Section Manager with a variety of tasks. These volunteer positions are enumerated at <https://www.arrl.org/field-organization> . I am looking for a couple of people to become involved in the operation of the North Carolina Section.

Read the job description for Technical Coordinator and for the Affiliated Club Coordinator. If the job description matches your skills and interests, please contact me so we can discuss an appointment.

UPCOMING AMATEUR RADIO EVENTS

- FORSYTH CLUB SWAPFEST, 04/25/2026, held at the Robinhood Road Baptist Church, 5422 Robinhood Road, Winston-Salem. Information at <https://w4nc.com/hamfest/>.
- WAYNE COUNTY UNFEST, 05/02/2026, sponsored by the Wayne County Amateur Radio Association, Goldsboro, NC. Information at <https://k4cyp.com/news/2026-chris-keen-memorial-unfest/>.
- CARY SWAPFEST 07/18/2026 - 53rd Annual Cary Mid-Summer Swapfest, sponsored by the Cary Amateur Radio Club and held at Ritter



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Park, 301 W. Lochmere Drive, Cary.

- WSCARS HAMFES, 07/25/2026. Sponsored by the Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society held at the Smokey Mountain Event Center, 758 Crabtree Road, Waynesville. Information at <https://wcars-club.org/hamfest-annual/docs/hfnotice.pdf>.
- CAPE FEAR HAMFEST, August 8, sponsored by the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society, held at the Cumberland County Shrine Club, 7040 Ramsey Street, Fayetteville. Information available soon.
- SHELBY HAMFEST 09/04/2026 - 09/05/2026, sponsored by the Shelby Amateur Radio Club, held at the Cleveland County Fairgrounds. Large outdoor flea market, indoor and outdoor space for dealers, forums, license exams, food. Information at <https://shelbyhamfest.org/>.
- DAYTON HAMVENTION

Organized by the Dayton Amateur Radio Association and held on May 15, 16, and 17 at the Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center near Xenia, Ohio.

It is the largest hamfest in North America and it fills several buildings plus a large outdoor flea market. You will see the newest equipment from ICOM, Yaesu, Kenwood, Flex and peripherals such as



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power supplies, modems, antennas, towers and weather stations plus you can talk to reps from international ham organizations and software producers. You can choose from simultaneous forums on various topics, upgrade your license and take the opportunity to meet ARRL officials, Board members and much of the HQ staff. In the flea market area, you will walk past several hundred tents and look at the stuff being sold by tailgaters that will include used commercial equipment, military surplus items and lots of antennas, rotors, cables, connectors and similar items.

The old saying is that if you can't find at Dayton what you are looking for, then you probably will not find it at any other hamfest. Plus there will be a variety of food choices!

Info can be found at <https://hamvention.org/>. Every ham needs to go to Dayton at least once in their life and while there you should go over to the nearby Air Force Museum at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base and look at the Presidential Aircraft, the evolution of rocketry and the history of flight at Wright-Patterson.

- FIELD DAY PLANNING

It is not too early to begin planning for Field Day which is held annually on the last full weekend in June. Information can be found at <https://www.arrl.org/field-day> . This year the dates will be June 27-28.



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Field Day gives hams an opportunity to get out in a park, using temporary antennas and solar, wind or generator power. Some groups use this as an opportunity to refresh their skills in emergency operations, others are avid contesters and still others just operate for a few hours and enjoy the comradery with fellow hams.

Information about rules, scoring points, and registering your Field Day site can be found at <https://www.arrl.org/field-day>.

Once the Field Day locator site is posted, visitors who want to learn about ham radio can find your club's Field Day operation. To the extent possible (because North Carolina is a very large state) your Roanoke Director and Vice Director, as well as the NC Section Manager and other Section personnel will be stopping at many Field Day sites.

- SILENT KEYS

When I learn of Silent Keys through a club newsletter or when someone sends a note that a friend, club member or family member has died I notify ARRL and request that the name and callsign of the ham be listed on the Silent Key page in QST. Feel free to let me know about Silent Keys so that I can make sure he or she is listed in QST.